HORIZONS Celebrates *Shimmering* Milestone

Over 25 Years of Sharing the Art of Hospitality

The conference center known for hosting some of our region's most memorable celebrations has been celebrating its own 25th anniversary since early 2021

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More than a venue – a memory-making partner

In 1995, Dr. Samuel ("Doc") and Patricia Shaheen began the transformation of a former Kmart on State Street in Saginaw into mid-Michigan's premier event center. The completely renovated facility hosted its first events in April 1996 – a family wedding, followed by a fundraiser for Hidden Harvest, which was just two years old at the time.

With over 40,000 square feet of flexible event space, HORIZONS offers myriad venue options for events ranging from small gatherings to large galas. Another 60,000 square feet is leased to long-term tenants, which have included Fortune 50 companies, universities and small businesses through the years.

Since 1996, HORIZONS has hosted thousands of weddings, anniversary celebrations and other events to mark life's most important milestones – as well as thousands of conferences, trade shows, retirement celebrations, and a wide range of corporate and community gatherings. HORIZONS team members form deep connections with their clients and guests and are an integral part of the planning process, creating memorable experiences that have people coming back again and again.



Kmart store #4038, circa 1963, decades before its transformation to HORIZONS Conference Center.



Newcomers to the spacious, spectacular facility are often astounded when they learn about its humble beginnings.



The Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame has held its annual banquet at HORIZONS for many years.

Thousands of events. Millions of moments. Countless memories.



Michigan Banner has hosted its Heart of the City Community Awards program at HORIZONS since 2017.

The Art of Hospitality extends to local bakery, corporate food service ... even ice cream

The HORIZONS family includes those who work at the original State Street location in Saginaw, as well as all of its connected businesses throughout the region – businesses like Saginaw's Pâtisserie, which opened in 2002 as an extension of the HORIZONS pastry department. The cozy, European-inspired bakery specializes in fabulous pastries, handcrafted desserts and an ever-changing menu of gorgeous gourmet delights.

Since 2014, the HORIZONS team has provided world-class corporate food service, catering and micro markets at Dow's global headquarters in Midland. HORIZONS also operates the State Street Café, across from Dow Diamond where the Great Lakes Loons play.

In 2019, HORIZONS opened Cream & Sugar, a collaboration with Michigan Sugar and the Michigan Milk Producers Association. Every scoop of the hand-crafted, small-batch ice cream supports local farms, families and businesses. Cream & Sugar is located in Bay City's vibrant Uptown development. Both on-site and off-site HORIZONS events often incorporate Cream & Sugar and Pâtisserie offerings alongside those prepared by the talented HORIZONS culinary team.

Celebrating 25+ years and looking to the future

When HORIZONS began its 25th year in 2021, the first major event it hosted was perhaps the most unusual in its history.

As a free service to the community, HORIZONS collaborated with Covenant HealthCare to host Saginaw's first vaccination clinic in January 2021 and continued to host the clinics through early June, providing more than 22,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. Soon after the clinics concluded, HORIZONS reopened its doors and resumed hosting weddings, fundraising galas, monthly Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce "Percolator breakfasts," and other types of business and social events – after being closed for more than 15 months due to the pandemic.

"Bringing back our team and being able to once again welcome and serve our community has been the very best way to celebrate our 25 years," said Pete Shaheen, president of HORIZONS.

"As we look ahead to the future, we are incredibly grateful to the community that

has supported our family-owned business through good times and challenging circumstances. We look forward to creating countless more amazing events and fond memories for families, businesses and organizations throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region."



Pâtisserie's signature fruit tarts got their start in the HORIZONS pastry kitchen.



Pâtisserie is a friendly bakery with European flair on the corner of Bay and Weiss in Saginaw Township. saginawpatisserie.com



State Street Café in downtown Midland's East End building serves breakfast, lunch, snacks and Starbucks drinks. statestreetmi.com



Cream & Sugar sources many ingredients from around Michigan – including fruit, honey, and locally roasted coffee and nuts, in addition to milk and sugar. creamsugarbaycity.com





Those attending special events at the historic Temple Theatre in downtown Saginaw are also treated to the Art of Hospitality. The Shaheen family rescued the majestic Temple from the wrecking ball in 2002, lovingly restored it and donated the completed masterpiece to the community in 2012. HORIZONS is the exclusive caterer for the Temple. templetheatre.com

The Art of Hospitality is about welcoming everyone in every encounter and creating a unique and memorable experience from the very first interaction. That spirit is infused in everything we do at HORIZONS.

- Pete Shaheen, president of HORIZONS Conference Center